## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA SHREVEPORT DIVISION

JERMAINE ANDERSON CIVIL ACTION NO. 24-cv-1738

VERSUS JUDGE EDWARDS

WOODREAL ESTATES 506, LLC ET AL MAGISTRATE JUDGE HORNSBY

## REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

Jermaine Anderson ("Plaintiff"), who is self-represented, has filed eight civil actions in this court in the last several weeks. Most were filed under the name Jermaine Anderson, but one was filed as Jermaine Anderson Joseph. Most appear to be related to dissatisfaction with eviction proceedings in the Shreveport City Court. With some, like this one, it is impossible to tell what the claims are about. For the reasons that follow, it is recommended that this civil action be dismissed for failure to state a claim on which relief may be granted.

This complaint names as defendants Woodreal Estates 506, LLC, Michael Lafitte, Josh Gay, Lionel Dawson, and Abraham Knopeler. Plaintiff checked a box on the form complaint to indicate that the basis for federal jurisdiction is federal question. The form asked him to list the federal statutes at issue, and he wrote "Civil Rights violations / 22f2, color of law." The form also asked Plaintiff to (1) write a short and plain statement of his claim by stating facts that show that he is entitled to relief and (2) state how each defendant was involved and what each defendant did that caused harm to the Plaintiff or violated his

rights. Plaintiff wrote: "Each defendant was involved with violations of my civil rights! Victiom of real estate fraud." He asked for \$18,000 ("or more") in damages.

To avoid dismissal for failure to state a claim, a plaintiff's complaint must plead enough facts to "state a claim to relief that is plausible on its face." Ashcroft v. Iqbal, 129 S.Ct. 1937, 1949 (2009) (quoting Bell Atl. Corp. v. Twombly, 127 S.Ct. 1955 (2007)). The factual allegations must "raise a right to relief above the speculative level." Twombly, 127 S.Ct. at 1965. "[P]ro se complaints are held to less stringent standards than those drafted by lawyers," but even in a pro se complaint "conclusory allegations or legal conclusions masquerading as factual conclusions will not suffice to" state a valid claim. Taylor v. Books A Million, Inc., 296 F.3d 376, 378 (5th Cir. 2002).

Plaintiff was directed in clear language to state facts to support his claims, and he completely failed to do so. There is nothing in the meager offerings in his complaint that asserts a plausible claim against any of the named defendants. There is not even the barest hint of how any of the defendants interacted with Plaintiff in any way. Plaintiff asserts that the defendants violated his civil rights, but mere conclusory allegations, naked assertions without any factual enhancement, or formulaic recitations of a cause of action are not enough to survive review under the <a href="Twombly">Twombly</a> standard. <a href="Ashcroft v. Iqbal">Ashcroft v. Iqbal</a>, 129 S. Ct. 1937, 1949 (2009). <a href="Twombly">Twombly</a> "demands more than an unadorned, the-defendant-unlawfully-harmed-me accusation." <a href="Id">Id</a>. Plaintiff's conclusory allegations are not sufficient to state a plausible claim on which relief may be granted, so his complaint should be dismissed.

The recommended dismissal may be granted sua sponte. "A district court may dismiss an action on its own motion under Rule 12(b)(6) as long as the procedure employed

is fair." <u>Bazrowx v. Scott</u>, 136 F.3d 1053, 1054 (5th Cir. 1998). This procedure is fair, because this Report and Recommendation provides Plaintiff with sufficient notice of and opportunity to respond to the possible dismissal of his case. <u>See Magouirk v. Phillips</u>, 144 F.3d 348, 359 (5th Cir. 1998) (sua sponte invocation of defense in Report and Recommendation satisfied due process). Such a sua sponte dismissal is permissible even if done prior to a defendant being served. <u>Alexander v. Trump</u>, 753 Fed. Appx. 201, 208 (5th Cir. 2018).

Plaintiff's filings that have been reviewed by the court thus far have been meritless and frivolous. He is warned that if he continues to file such frivolous actions and pleadings, he may be subjected to sanctions, which can include an order that he pay monetary sanctions, a bar on filing as a pauper, and a bar on filing any civil action without prior approval by a district judge. Plaintiff should take this warning seriously. The court has imposed similar sanctions against other plaintiffs who have abused the litigations process.

Accordingly,

It is recommended that this civil action be dismissed with prejudice for failure to state a claim on which relief may be granted.

## **Objections**

Under the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(C) and Fed. R. Civ. P. 72(b), parties aggrieved by this recommendation have fourteen (14) days from service of this report and recommendation to file specific, written objections with the Clerk of Court, unless an extension of time is granted under Fed. R. Civ. P. 6(b). A party may respond to another party's objections within fourteen (14) days after being served with a copy thereof.

A party's failure to file written objections to the proposed findings, conclusions and recommendation set forth above, within 14 days after being served with a copy, shall bar that party, except upon grounds of plain error, from attacking on appeal the unobjected-to proposed factual findings and legal conclusions accepted by the district court. See Douglass v. U.S.A.A., 79 F.3d 1415 (5th Cir. 1996) (en banc).

THUS DONE AND SIGNED in Shreveport, Louisiana, this 8th day of January, 2025.

Mark L. Hornsby U.S. Magistrate Judge